## 5509 NE 63rd Street Seattle, WA 98115

January 24, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am of the opinion that the settlement that was reached between Microsoft and the Department of Justice is more than fair, and I hope that it is implemented as soon as possible. Over three years have passed since the beginning of the suit, and the economy has fallen into a recession in that time.

The settlement that has been proposed does not go easy on Microsoft, but with everything considered, it was the best thing that could have happened. I believe that Microsoft should have never been taken to court in the first place, but if this settlement ends all of the ridiculous litigation and allows Microsoft to worry more about producing instead of legal defense. I do however feel that the settlement will benefit the economy. Microsoft's competitors will be able to produce and promote software that competes with Windows, and they will not have to worry about retaliation from Microsoft.

The settlement, although not deserving, is fair enough and I support it. Thank you for your time and consideration

Sincerely,

Jack Gardner